

**PROMOTOR(A)/COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER (CHW)
TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 28, 2002, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Texas Department of Health, 1100 W. 49th Street, Morton Bldg M-739, Austin

11:00-11:10	Welcome and introductions	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
11:10-11:20	Approval of Minutes	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
11:20-11:50	Health and Safety Code, Chapter 48	Andrea Varnell, Legislative Aide, Senator Eliot Shapleigh
11:50-12:30	Committee Business: Review draft Promotor/Community Health Worker application	Cecilia Berrios, M.A. Community Health Promotion Specialist
12:30-1:00	Break/Distribute lunch	Staff
1:00-1:30	25 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 146	Monty Waters Assistant General Counsel
1:30-1:40	Advisory committee's involvement with Promotores: Members' point of view	Graciela Camarena, Advisory committee member
1:40-1:45	Possible subcommittees	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
1:45-2:00	Next meeting dates for 2002, travel costs and agenda items for June meeting	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
2:00-2:15	Public comment	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
2:15-2:30	Adjourn	

PROMOTOR(A) OR COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 28, 2002

Members Present: Edna Dougherty, Elizabeth Kelly, Maria Teresa de Llano, Graciela Camarena, Elaine Hernandez, Paul Villas and Lorenza Zuniga.

Members Absent: Oscar Munoz. There is one vacant position.

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** Edna Dougherty welcomed the committee, TDH staff and the audience.
- II. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the April 30, 2002 meeting were approved as written. Maria Teresa de Llano moved for approval and Graciela Camarena seconded the motion.
- III. Health and Safety Code, Chapter 48:** Andrea Varnell, Legislative Aide with Senator Eliot Shapleigh, reviewed Senate Bill 1051 (77th Texas Legislative Session) regarding training and regulation of Promotores(as) or Community Health Workers.
- IV. Committee Business:** Cecilia Berrios presented the draft Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker application form for certification. Committee members recommended some changes that are to be reviewed at the June 25, 2002 meeting.
- V. 25 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 146:** Monty Waters, Assistant General Counsel, discussed the administrative rule, including committee composition, reappointment process and the need for rule change relating to term of committee.
- VI. Advisory Committee's Involvement with Promotores:** Members' point of view: Graciela Camarena of Mercedes, Committee Member, talked about her experience as a Promotora and shared her views about the training and certification program. Ms. Camarena stressed the importance of incorporating all Promotores(as) in the certification process: paid and unpaid. She described the benefits of the Neighbor Helping Neighbor concept which brings much value to public health.

VII. Possible Subcommittees: Edna Dougherty assigned subcommittees as follows:

Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker Application Process:

Lorenza Zuniga, Chair

Maria Teresa de Llano

Dr. Jim Zukowski, Texas Department of Health, Austin, ad hoc member

Dr. Edli Colberg, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Austin, ad hoc member

Instructor Application Process:

Oscar Munoz, Chair

Kermit Black, former PPDC member, Center for Housing and Urban Development, Texas A&M University, Bryan-College Station, ad hoc member

Sponsoring Institution/Curriculum Application Process:

Elizabeth Kelly, Chair

Elaine Hernandez

Rule Review Process:

Graciela Camarena, Chair

Dr. Paul Villas

David Luna, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Harlingen, ad hoc member.

Edna Dougherty, Chair, stated that subcommittee chairs could meet in July with their subcommittee members and be prepared to report to the committee at the August meeting.

VIII. Next Meeting Dates for 2002, Travel Costs and Agenda Items for June Meeting:

Edna Dougherty reminded members that the next meeting was set for Tuesday, June 25 in Edinburg. The meeting will be hosted by Dr. Paul Villas, committee member, at UT Pan American in Edinburg. Committee members discussed the issue of travel costs for committee members to attend meetings since reimbursement for travel is not provided. Some committee members explained that travel costs are covered by the organization they represent, while others expressed the hardship that travel costs represent because they have to pay their own expenses. Still, committee members felt that some of the meetings should be held throughout Texas. Dr. Paul Villas raised the issue of possibly obtaining travel money from outside organizations that have an interest in the work of the committee. He indicated that if approaching outside organizations was appropriate, he would be willing to contact possible contributors on behalf of the committee. Possible agenda items recommended for the June 25, 2002 meeting include subcommittee roles and responsibilities, revisions of Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker application for certification, rule amendment process, conflict of interest of ad hoc members, bi-national nature of work performed by Promotores(as), extend public comment period to 30 minutes for Edinburg. Dr. Villas recommended that Elaine Hernandez be assigned to speak under the “Members’ Point of View” portion of the agenda at the August meeting.

- IX. Public Comment:** Carl Rush, MRP, Coordinator, Community Health Program, Northwest Vista College, reminded committee members that the original forces leading to certification include community health workers desire for recognition of their skills and the movement by other state agencies to capitalize on the skills demonstrated by community health workers and their contributions in their communities. He talked about his work at the community college and reaching out to employers who may be in need of certified community health workers. Mr. Rush expressed his belief that employers should be the ones required to be certified based on their internal training standards, supervision and working conditions in order to receive a state contract.

Peggy Romberg, Executive Director, Women's Health & Family Planning Association of Texas, explained that the association membership includes medical schools, community centers, health departments, hospital districts, planned parenthood affiliates, among others. She indicated that many of the members statewide are currently using Promotores(as). She noted that people are finding the value of using individuals who come from the community.

- X. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES BY PRESIDING OFFICER

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Edna Dougherty, Chair

May 28, 2002
Date